

[The Zamindar of Gollapalli] [24th January 1928]

"Further, this scheme is intended to bring advantage of two monsoons and to utilize waste water of Budameru (in low water season and all the available cross drainage) which is constantly expected behind the tail tanks in different small basins. The alignment has to be proposed in such a way as to convey all such available drainage and to feed the tanks the supply channels of which it has to cross. Therefore the difficulty from cross drainage can be the minimum."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“The hon. Member will kindly resume his seat. The hon. Member will be given an opportunity to finish his unread portion of the speech after lunch. In the meantime I may request the hon. Member to pass on his speech to the hon. the Law Member so that he may make a suitable reply.”

II.—AMENDMENTS OF STANDING ORDERS.

“I have now to inform the House that the following six gentlemen were nominated to the Select Committee to consider amendments to the Standing Orders No. 53 and 66 moved yesterday and Standing Orders No. 37 and 40 moved to-day by the hon. the Advocate-General :—Mr. M. A. Manickavelu Naicker, Mr. J. A. Saldanha, Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar, Mr. R. Srinivasan, Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udayar and Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar. As the number of candidates nominated is equal to the number of vacancies, namely, six, I hereby declare the above gentlemen to have been duly elected under Regulation II (4) of the regulations which provide for holding of elections. Rao Bahadur B. Munuswami Nayudu, one of the Panel of Chairmen, has been nominated by me in addition to the Deputy President and the Advocate-General, who will be on the committee ex officio. This same committee will consider both sets of amendments.

“The House will now adjourn for lunch.”

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

INVESTIGATION INTO THE SCHEMES OF THE HIGH-FLOOD CHANNEL FROM THE KISTNA—cont.

* The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI (continuing his speech) :—“It is anticipated that several bridges will be necessary for cart tracks. However, I can point out that even on the Ellore canal, useful for navigation as well, there are only a few bridges; as such in this shallow tank supply channel no bridges need be constructed and traffic between delta and upland which cannot be considerable during irrigation season can be easily managed by ramps. After all, a few foot bridges may be ample without ferries even.”

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATHI MUDALIYAR :—“Sir, I rise to a point of order whether we are justified in hearing the Zamindar of Gollapalli when we are not in a quorum.”

The Secretary rang the bell and soon there was a quorum.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“Now there are more than 30 members present. The Zamindar of Gollapalli may continue.”

* The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI :—“Sir, I once again point out that the scheme is not identical with the Budameru scheme for mitigating floods.

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"In any case, if the scheme becomes very costly the association of ryots submitted to the Government in their resolution that they are prepared to pay a reasonable contribution and therefore the amount of estimate and contribution necessary may also be worked up.

"It is stated by some that if this work is taken up, the Kistna reservoir scheme would be neglected. But, I say that such small schemes would be an initiative to take up greater works.

"I request the House to pass this resolution and ameliorate the condition of the poverty-stricken ryots of the Kistna district."

Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar seconded the motion.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The question is that this Council recommends to the Government to constitute a committee consisting of non-officials of the local Legislative Council and of the local Public Works Department officers to investigate into the schemes of the high flood channel from the Kistna beginning from Mulapadu or thereabouts to facilitate irrigating a belt of land of about 30,000 acres north of Ellore canal."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, let me in the first place congratulate the hon. Member on the pertinacity and the enthusiasm displayed by him in moving this resolution. I am afraid in the form in which it is moved, it is not possible for me to accept it. As I shall endeavour presently to show, this is a matter which has to be considered and decided mainly from purely technical and engineering aspects and the committee of this House equipped as it is in many other respects will not, I think, be able to deal with the questions which would arise for solution. Let me point out some of the difficulties which have been placed before us in the consideration of the project which my hon. Friend has at heart. The proposal involves, we are told, the addition of a high-way bridge across the Hyderabad Road and the head sluice in the Kistna Canal River and a new channel to discharge the Gudameru water in the proposed channel. This is expected to be a costly work in view of the large quantity of water brought down the Gudameru in times of flood and further the continuation of this channel runs across many drainage lines and a large number of cross-drainage works would be required to deal with the drainages.

"These are some of the engineering difficulties pointed out. My hon. Friend has made an appeal to the officers of the department personally to investigate the place and report again. The question of mitigating the floods in the Gudameru by the construction of a reservoir was found impracticable in 1912. At present an investigation is being made into the possibility of running a short crop in the months of July, August and September in the Kistna East delta. In regard to this particular project or scheme, which my Friend has put forward before this House, all that I can promise is to have the question considered with reference to the considerations urged to-day, some of which were not in the memorial on which the Superintending Engineer has sent the report. That is the utmost I can promise on this matter. Hon. Members of this House will realize that there are very difficult engineering and technical problems involved and I am sure, therefore, that my hon. Friend would take the assurance that I shall have the matter re-investigated by the department and not press the motion for the appointment of a committee such as the one he has in mind."

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Does the hon. Member propose to reply or proceed with the resolution ? ”

The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI :—“ I press the motion, Sir.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Does Mr. Saldanha propose to make a speech ? ” (Laughter.)

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ No, Sir.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The question is this Council recommends to the Government to constitute a committee consisting of non-officials of the local Legislative Council and of the local Public Works Department officers to investigate into the schemes of the high-flood channel from the Kistna beginning from Mulapadu or thereabouts to facilitate irrigating a belt of land of about 30,000 acres north of Ellore canal.”

The motion was put to the House and declared lost. The Zamindar of Gollapalli demanded a poll, which was taken with the following result :—

Ayes.

1. The Zamindar of Seithur.	10. Mr. U. Ramaswami Ayyar.
2. Mr. J. Bheemayya.	11. „ M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar.
3. „ V. Ch. John.	12. „ M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
4. „ Muppil Nayar.	13. „ B. Ramachandra Reddi.
5. „ J. Kuppuswami.	14. Rao Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabapathi Mudaliyar.
6. „ S. Venkiah.	15. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu.
7. „ S. Arupudaswami Udayar.	16. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu.
8. The Zamindar of Gollapalli.	17. „ K. Sitarama Reddi.
9. Mr. K. Ramachandra Padayachi.	

Noes.

1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar.	7. Mr. F. B. Evans.
2. „ Sir Norman Marjoribanks.	8. „ H. A. Watson.
3. „ Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur.	9. „ G. T. Boag.
4. „ Mr. T. E. Moir.	10. „ A. McG. C. Tampe.
5. „ Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar.	11. „ S. H. Slater.
6. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastryar.	12. „ C. B. Cotterell.
	13. „ K. Krishnan.

Ayes 7. Noes 13.

The motion was carried.

SPECIAL GRANT TO THE WOMEN'S HOME OF SERVICE, MYLAPORE.

With the permission of the House, Dr. (Mrs.) S. Muthulakshmi Reddi moved the following resolution which stood in the name of Mr. C. S. Govinda-raja Mudaliyar :—

‘ This Council recommends to the Government to sanction a special and liberal grant to the Women's Home of Service, Mylapore, which is conducting adult education on national lines for astitute women of the Presidency and which is training them to become self-supporting.’

Dr. (Mrs.) S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI :—“ Mr. President, the Women's Home of Service was started with the object of promoting adult education and making them self-reliant and self-supporting and thus enabling them to earn an honourable living. It was started in the year 1923 by the Women's

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Indian Association. It has done four years of useful work. It has got a good record and, if hon. Members take the trouble of going through the report, they will be favourably impressed with the work done by the Home. It has got at present 15 resident scholarship students. The scholarships are given from the funds received from public associations and from the Women's Indian Association. The classes there are mostly vocational. The teachers give them lessons in vernaculars and in English and music and religion is also taught. Most of the time of the pupils is taken up by vocational classes such as lace-making, embroidery, weaving and spinning. Last year articles worth Rs. 2,000 were made there. In addition to the instruction given regularly in classes, 50 grown-up girls and women residents in the neighbourhood, daily come and attend the classes and earn about 4 annas per day.

"Again, Sir, as there is sufficient accommodation, it serves also as a hostel for teachers and medical students who come from the mufassal. Hon. Members may know that in Madras we are very badly in need of a hostel for Indian women who come from the mufassal. Except the Young Women's Christian Association hostel there are no hostels for girls in Madras. It may be said that there is the Medical College hostel. But it accommodates medical students only.

"Again, Sir, the Women's Home has got a baby welcome attached to it. Last year they gave medical help to 90 babies per day. The annual report shows that 30,000 cases were given baths and attended to for minor ailments. Expectant mothers of the locality are attended to by the nurse in charge of the baby welcome. Many distinguished visitors had opportunities of visiting the Home. One such distinguished visitor and social worker is the late lamented Sanyasi Swami Shradhanandji. With the permission of the House I will just read to the House his opinion of the work done by the Home. 'The work done by the Brahman and non-Brahman ladies sitting side by side with the Panchama girls and working out the future of India gives me the greatest delight. If a Sanyasi's benediction can be of any use to an institution of this kind it has my heartiest sympathy.' He is one of the distinguished men who visited the Home and his opinion will speak for itself. The management of the Home is in the hands of the officers of the Women's Indian Association and it has a strong advisory committee composed of women of all castes and creeds. The Corporation has been good enough to give a grant of Rs. 1,500 and Child Welfare Association about Rs. 800. I wish to draw the attention of the House to the need for a Home of this kind in the life of the Indian women of this country. Owing to our peculiar social condition many women in their young age between the ages of 15 and 30 are uncared for either because they are widows or are deserted by their husbands and relatives. In a poverty-stricken country such as ours, you can imagine their hardship. Sometimes there are women with a number of children to look after. So I think one Home is not sufficient; but we want tens of such Homes.

"Sir, in the Women's Home, some are trained as maternity nurses, some as vocational teachers and some others as music teachers. If they should get some special grant from the Government many such women may be trained as teachers, midwives and music and vocational instructors. As we want to conduct the Home on the lines of the Poona Seva Sadan Society which has got

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an international reputation we need this special grant. There are similar Homes being started by Indian ladies at Triplicane and there is one in Andhradesa called the Sarada Niketan and the local body of the place has been good enough to make grants to it. But it has not yet obtained the approval of the hon. Minister for Education for making that grant. The grant that has been so freely given by the local body ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ On a point of order, I wish to know if the reference to Sarada Niketan grant is relevant.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The hon. Member is travelling beyond the limits of the resolution she has moved when she talks about the Sarada Niketan. The hon. Member is requested to confine her remarks to the Women's Home of Service, Mylapore.”

* Dr. (Mrs.) S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI :—“ I just wanted to draw the attention of the hon. Minister ”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ She will take another opportunity to do so.”

* Dr. (Mrs.) S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI :—“ I may point out that the Governments of Bombay, Bengal and Mysore have been helping such institutions very liberally and so I humbly submit that this resolution may be given effect to.”

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—“ Sir, I have great pleasure in seconding the resolution moved by Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddi. She has told us what useful work the institution is doing, how its work has been appreciated by eminent citizens of Madras as well as distinguished visitors from outside and how the grants given by the Madras Corporation, the Department of Industries and the Child Welfare Association are being utilized. All these show that the Home is doing very useful work and therefore deserves support. Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddi has pleaded very eloquently for a very worthy cause and I hope the Government will see their way to give a liberal grant to this Home of Service as asked for in this resolution.”

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ Mr. President, as was apparent from the speech of the hon. Mover, the Government are already giving a grant to this institution in the Department of Industries. A sum of Rs. 700 is being paid to the Women's Home of Service for their industrial work. When this resolution was first ballotted for, I had my own doubts as to whether the recommendation made therein referred to my hon. Friend the Minister for Development or to myself. As the words ‘adult education’ occurs in the body of the resolution we thought very likely the resolution referred to the Department of Education. No proposal has come from the Women's Home of Service, Mylapore, asking themselves to be recognized as an educational institution whether for adults or others. When such is the case, the Government are not so flushed with funds as to go on offering help to institutions that have not chosen either to apply for recognition by the Department of Education or to declare themselves to be an educational institution under the Educational Code. But, if the institution in which I see my hon. Friend the Deputy President is so interested makes an application to the Government in the Education Department wanting support in the matter of adult education, the Government will be certainly prepared to consider such application.”